(a) the quantity of fertilizers imported during 1993-94;

(b) the details of different kinds of Chemical fertilizers imported during 1993-94; and

(c) whether this has affected the profitability of Indian Fertilizer Plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Urea, MOP & DAP are the major fertilizers which are imported by the country. Urea is a canalised commodity for imports. During 1993-94, 28.40 lakh tonnes of urea were imported. According to the information available with the Government approximately 14.28 lakh tonnes of MOP and 15.69 lakh tonnes of DAP have been imported during the said period. Imports of MOP and DAP are decanalised.

(c) While about 85 per cent of the country's demand of urea and 60 per cent of DAP are met from indigenous production, the entire requirement of MOP is met through imports.

Urea is under price control and the issue price of indigenous and imported urea is uniform. The import of urea is regulated by the Government. Hence there is no effect on the profitability of the domestic industry. DAP is a decontrolled fertilizer and its imports are decanalised. Cheap imports of DAP affected indigenous production during the early part of 1993-94. A special concession of Rs. 1000 PMT on the sale of indigenously produced DAP was extended during 1993-94 to make indigenous production competitive with imports.

Union Carbide to Dismantle its Plant at Bhopal

329. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted Union Carbide to dismantle and remove existing plant and machinaries from the Bhopal site;

(b) whether Government are aware as to whom this ill-fated plant and machineries are being sold;

(c) whether Government will ensure to put the entire plant and machineries for the test of sounders through technically competent persons prior to allowing use of these equipments;

(d) whether the use of compensation to gas victims has been fully settled; and

(e) if not, whether Government will attach the sales proceeds of the plant and machineries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has informed that the plant and machinery are not case properties and therefore no prior permission of the Government is required. Union Carbide has not informed the Government of the persons to whom the plant and machinery are being sold. The Company has however, intimated that some of the dismantled equipments have been transferred to their manufacturing unit located within the country and others are being sold to interested buyers from time to time.

(d) and (e) Government has received the full amount of compensation as ordered by the Supreme Court.

Shortage of Fertilizers

330. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers in the country in general and Maharashtra in particular are facing an acute shortage of fertilisers as Kharif production has since started in full swing with the enset of monsoon:

(b) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to ensure adequate supply of fertilisers to the farmers so that kharif production is not affected;

(c) what is the total indigenous production of fertilisers during the last three years; year-wise;

(d) what are total imports of fertilisers during the last three years, year-wise, both quantity-wise and cost-wise;

(e) whether it is a fact that the domestic producion of both the major nutrients (nitrogen and phosphate) is estimated to have registered a decline;

(f) if so, what are the reason therefor; and

(g) what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to step up the domestic production of fertilisers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The availability of fertilisers in the country is, by and large, satisfactory. Arrangements have been made to augment supplies to deficit areas from alternate indigenous sources and imports.

(b) The supply of fertilisers, particularly of urea, which is under control, is closely monitored by the Government in coordination with the manufacturers, handing agencies of imported fertilisers and the State Governments and appropriate decisions are taken to ensure adequate availability of fertilisers.

(c) and (d) Indigenous production, imports and cost and freight value of fertilisers imported on Government account during the year 1991-92 to 1993-94 are as under :—

Year	Production (lakh tonnes of nutrients)	Imports (lakh tonnes of nutrients)	C & F value of fertilisers imported on Government account (in Rs. crores)
1991-92	98.63	27.69	1934.19
1992-93	97.36	29.67	2216.00
1993-94	90.47	31.67	1256.25

(e) and (f) The indigenous production of nitrogen and phosphate nutrients declined during 1993-94 as compared to 1992-93 and 1991-92. The major reasons for the shortfall in poduction were as follows:—

(i) Closure of phosphatic plants for 4 to 5 months due to a slump in the demand following decontrol and uneven competition from imports of cheap DAP.

(ii) Reduced availability of gas to the gas-based fertiliser plants.

(iii) Shortage of imported raw materials in some of the plants.

(iv) power and equipment problem faced by certain units.

(v) Intermittent production stoppages in Barauni and Durgapur plants of Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation (HFC) since September 1993 due to financial constraints.

(g) The following steps have been taken to step up the indigenous production of fertilisers. —

(i) Work on doubling the capacities of National Fertilisers Limited (NFL) at Vijaipur and Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperatives Limited (IFFCO) plant at Aonla has begun;

(ii) M|s. Fertiliser and Chemicals Tranvancore Limited (FACT) is being up a new ammonia plant, with an installed capacity of 900 tonnes per day at M|s Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT), Cochin.

(iii) Revamping of the urea, ammonia and NPK plants of Madras Fertilisers Limited (MFL) has been sanctioned.

(iv) Abolition of customs duty on imports of phosphoric acid and ammonia and on capital goods for new fetiliser plants as well as for revamping of the existing plants;

(v) An incentive is being provided for the use of indigenous rock phosphate and iron pyrites in fertiliser production.

Fertilizer Units of the Country

331. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fertilizer units in the country both in private and public sector, State-wise;

(b) whether the existing fertilizer units are able to meet the demands of various fertilizers in the country; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to set up new fertilizer units in the country location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The details of the major fertilizer producing plants in the public, cooperative and private sector (State-wise) are given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Out of the three main fertilizer nutrients viz., nitrogen, phosphate and potash, about 85 per cent of the demand of nitrogen and 70 per cent of the demand of phosphate is met through indigenous production. The rest of the demand is met through imports. The entire reuirement of potash is met through imports. The entire requirement of potash is met through imports as the country does not have known and exploitable reserves of potash.

To reduce the gap between the demand and indigenous production of fertilizers, two new ammonia|urea plants, one each at Babrala (U.P.) and Shahjahanpur (U.P.), are currently under implementation in the private sector. Besides, National Fertilizers Ltd., (NFL) and Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd., (IFFCO) have taken up projects for doubling of the capacity of their gas based plants at Vijaipur (M.P.) and Aonla (U.P.), respectively.

Statement

Statement showing the State-wise major fertiliser plants in the Public, Co-operative and Private Sector in the country.

S. No.	Name of the Company	Name of the State	Sector	Product	'000' MT Installed capacity in nutrient terms as on 1-4-1994 Nitrogen—(N) Phosphate (P)
1	The Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited, Ramagundam	Andhra Pradesh	Public	Urea	228.0 (N)
2	Coromandal Fertilizers Limited, Vishakapatnam	-do-	Private	Complexes	84.0 (N) 104.0 (P)